

Claims

1. A method of deactivating a service account associated with an application server of a registered subscriber within a signaling network supporting internet protocol based services, the method comprising the steps of:

- a) monitoring a status of a service account;
- b) forwarding a request for de-registration to a registration server, which maintains a registration status of said subscriber, upon determining that disruption or termination of service is required; and
- c) changing the registration status of said subscriber so as to de-register said subscriber at said registration server in response to said de-registration request.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein said forwarding step comprises forwarding said de-registration or barring request over an interface directly coupling said application server and said registration server.

3. A method according to claim 1, wherein said forwarding step comprises forwarding said request to said registration server comprising a home subscriber server of an internet protocol multimedia subsystem.

4. A method according to claim 3, wherein said forwarding step comprises forwarding said request over said interface comprising an Sh reference point.

5. A method according to claim 3, wherein said forwarding step comprises forwarding said request in a profile update request command.

6. A method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of indicating de-registration by setting an updated registration status to a predetermined value.

7. A method according to claim 5, further comprising the step of indicating barring by adding a barring indication to a definition of a public identity.

8. A system for deactivating a service account of a registered subscriber within a signaling network supporting internet protocol based services, said system comprising:

a) a registration server to maintain a registration status of said subscriber; and

b) an application server, to which said service account is associated, to monitor a status of said service account and to forward a request for de-registration to said registration server, upon determining that disruption or termination of service is required,

wherein said registration server is configured to change the registration status of said subscriber so as to de-register said subscriber in response to said de-registration request.

9. A system according to 8, wherein said registration server is a home subscriber server.

10. A system according to 8, wherein said signaling network comprises an internet protocol multimedia subsystem.

11. A method of deactivating a service account associated with an application server of a registered subscriber within a signaling network supporting internet protocol based services, the method comprising the steps of:

a) monitoring a status of said service account;

b) forwarding a request for barring to a registration server, which maintains a registration status of said subscriber, upon determining that disruption or termination of service is required; and

c) changing a barring indication of said subscriber so as to bar said subscriber at said registration server by changing the barring indication in response to said barring request.

12. A method according to claim 11, wherein said forwarding step comprises forwarding said requests to said registration server comprising a home subscriber server of an internet protocol multimedia subsystem.

13. A method according to claim 12, wherein said forwarding step comprises forwarding said requests in a profile update request command.

14. A method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of indicating barring by adding the barring indication to a definition of a public identity.

15. A system for deactivating a service account of a registered subscriber within a signaling network supporting internet protocol based services, said system comprising:

- a) a registration server to maintain a registration status of said subscriber; and
- b) an application server, to which said service account is associated, to monitor a status of said service account and to forward a request for barring to said registration server, upon determining that disruption or termination of service is required,

wherein said registration server is configured to change the barring indication of said subscriber to bar said subscriber in response to said barring request.

16. A system for deactivating a service account associated with an application server of a registered subscriber within a signaling network supporting internet protocol based services, the system comprising:

- a) monitoring means for monitoring a status of said service account;
- b) forwarding means for forwarding a request for de-registration to a registration server, which maintains a registration status of said subscriber, upon determining that disruption or termination of service is required; and
- c) changing means for changing the registration status of said subscriber so as to deregister said subscriber at said registration server in response to de-registration request.

17. A system for deactivating a service account associated with an application server of a registered subscriber within a signaling network supporting internet protocol based services, the system comprising:

- a) monitoring means for monitoring a status of said service account;
- b) forwarding means for forwarding a request for barring to a registration server, which maintains a registration status of said subscriber, upon determining that disruption or termination of service is required; and
- c) changing a barring indication of said subscriber so as to bar said subscriber at said registration server by changing the barring indication in response to said barring request.